



HAMATEURCHATTER



One of the World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Clubs - since 1917

Vol. 15 No. 8 - August, 2007

PRESIDENT'S LETTER by Howard, AB9FH

So, did you participate in our 90th Anniversary Special Event? I hope so.

Sarah, KB9ZNC, and I sat out on the deck under the screen for two or three hours total over both days.

For some reason, I could not get the SWR down below 2.4:1 on my vertical, so I decided to construct a 40m dipole. I have a tuner, but I couldn't find the jumper to patch it in and the FT-101ZD has a tube final. I got the wires cut, found some support ropes and tried to figure out where to put it. Not enough room, not without climbing up the steep pitch of the roof to loop a rope around the chimney.

Okay, Plan C: 20m dipole. This went together very easily, though it took 2 tries to find a place to hang this one, too! First cut of the wires based on the formula had a resonant point just under 14 MHz. (I did look on the Internet first to find the velocity factor of 14 GA solid insulated copper wire, but couldn't find a clear answer.) eight inches off each side and SWR was less than 1.6:1 over the whole band (.97 is the answer as it turns out).

Conditions were very noisy, but most of the contacts said we were coming in very clearly. I learned a few things in the bargain, and now I have a 20m dipole for the Fox Tango nets on Saturday afternoons.

Send your logs from the 90th

Anniversary Special Event to Brian KC9HEK, in ADIF format if you can. You can send them via the MRAC-W9RH Yahoo group, or to w9rh@arrl.org.

You are a member of the Yahoo group, right? This group provides an excellent way for us to communicate between meetings. I heartily encourage you to join.

We will be offering a Technician License class through the Greenfield Parks & Rec. department. The class will run on Monday nights, 6:30-8:30 p.m., from September 17th through October 29th (not meeting the 22nd). I would greatly appreciate some help teaching the class. Let me or a Board member know if you would like to help. This class will be different in some respects. We haven't been real picky about signing up, and we haven't charged for the class, only for the book. For this class, sign-up is through the city, and the cost will be \$25 for Greenfield residents, \$32 for others; that does include the book. We will see if this proves to be an effective way to promote our classes.

Enjoy your August. Remember we do get humidity in January, too. It's just called "snow" then.

73s

Howard, AB9FH

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NETS HEARD IN THE MILWAUKEE AREA

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY			
Daily	6:00-8:00 AM	14.2900	Milwaukee / Florida (SSB)	Wed.	8:00 PM	145.130- ARRL voice news
Daily	5:15-6:00 AM	3.9850	Wisconsin SSB net	Wed.	9:00 PM	145.130- MAARS Swapnet
Daily	7:30 AM	144.1550	Breakfast RoundTable (SSB)	Wed.	8:00 PM	147.270+ Weather & Swap Net
Daily	9:30 PM	3.9725	Country Cousins Net	Thu.	9:00 PM	50.160 6 m. SSB Net
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.8650-	ARES Net (Walworth and ARRL news)	Thu.	9:00 PM	146.910- Computer Net
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.4450	Emergency Net	Fri. 8:00 PM 28.490	MRAC W9RH 10 m. Net (SSB)	
Mon.	8:45 PM	147.1650	ARRL voice news (ARES)	Fri. 9:00 PM 145.390-	W9RH 2 m. FM Net after 10 mtr. net	
Mon.	9:00 PM	50.1600	6 m. SSB Net	Sat	9:00 PM	146.910- Saturday Night Fun Net
Mon.	9:00 PM	147.1650	ARES Net (Milwaukee-Waukesha)	Sun.	8:30 AM	3.985 QCWA (Chptr 55) (SSB)
Tue.	9:00 AM	50.1600	6 m. 2nd Shifters' SSB Net	Sun.	9:00 AM	145.565 X-Country Simplex Group (FM)
Tue.	8:00 PM	144.2500	Badger Contesters (SSB)	Sun.	10:00 AM	443.800 FM-38 link to 146.88 Baraboo Swapnet
Tue.	9:00 PM	50.1600	6 m. SSB Net	Sun.	8:00 PM	28.365 MKE Guardian chptr 10-10 net
Wed.	8:00 PM	28.365	MKE Guardian chptr 10-10 net	Sun.	8:00 PM	146.910- Information Net
				Sun.	9:00 PM	146.910- Swap Net

2 meter repeaters are offset by 600 KHz -- 70 centimeter repeaters are offset by 5 MHz
SSB frequencies below 20 meters are LSB and for 20 meters and above are USB

HAMATEURCHATTER

HamateurChatter is the newsletter of MRAC (Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club), a not for profit organization for the advancement of amateur radio and the maintenance of fraternalism and a high standard of conduct.

MRAC Membership dues are \$17.⁰⁰ per year and run on a calendar year starting January 1.

MRAC general membership meetings are normally held at 7:00 p.m. the last Thursday of the month except for November (3rd Thursday due to Thanksgiving) and December, when Christmas dinner takes the place of a regular meeting.

Meetings are held at:

Redemption Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall
4057 N. Mayfair Rd.
Milwaukee, WI

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our August 30st meeting will feature:

CREDITS

Our thanks to our news contributors this month:

AB9FH WB9ODQ KF9PU
W9JBE KB9ZNC

Our thanks also goes to:
Rita Doneis, Hal Newton, Howard Parks and Tom Fuszard, for proofreading the 'Chatter this month.

Thanks also to Dick Wood for mailing the hard copy of the 'Chatter and to Joe Schwarz, who Emails the 'Chatter.

Brian White, who administers our Web Site.

Mark Tellier, Tom Fuszard and Tom Czaja who manage our VEC.



At present we know not what the program will be.

T h a n k Y O U !

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6/28/07

By SARAH PARKS, KB9ZNC

Howard, AB9FH, called the meeting to order, and drew attention to some informative pieces of literature on the front of the table, and a sign-up sheet for our 90th anniversary special event.

The microphone was passed for all to I.D.

Following Buzz Talk, the secretary's report was read. Pancho, KA9OFA, made a motion to accept the minutes as read, which was seconded by Les, AB9EY, and the motion passed.

Howard apologized again for the treasurer difficulties, and promised to resolve the matter soon. He reminded the membership that August 4th and 5th would be the 90th anniversary Special Event.

He gave a brief report on the South Milwaukee Swap-Fest, which was the first one he had attended.

The president said that the board doesn't always hear about extraordinary efforts by the members; if you know of someone who has gone the extra mile for HAM radio or the club, for that matter, let the Board know.

For new business, preparation for the Christmas Party

is already underway. Howard, AB9FH, stated that payment will need to be upfront this year; last year someone needed to pay out of his own pocket to cover the cost of the party. Verne Teske has been very dedicated in helping us out for the past few years. Unfortunately, his health may not be permitting this year. If you would like to help, let the board know.

The Greendale Rec. Center is willing to hold a six-week (not continuous) Technician class on Monday evenings, starting September 10th. Each class will last two hours. Anyone interested in helping can inform the board, or just show up. Dates will be ironed out by the August 'Chat-ter.

Pancho, KA9OFA, made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Rick, WB9GYT. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah, KB9ZNC,

Secretary

SUPPOSE EDGAR ALLEN POE USED A COMPUTER

BY ROGER ZAUN, W9UVV



Once upon a midnight dreary, fingers cramped and vision bleary, system manuals piled high and wasted paper on the floor, longing for the warmth of bed sheets. Still I sat there, doing spreadsheets. Having reached the bottom line, I took a floppy from the drawer. Typing with a steady hand, I then invoked the <SAVE> command and waited for the disk to store, Only this and nothing more.

Deep into the monitor peering, long I sat there wond'r, fearing, doubting, while the disk kept churning, turning yet to churn some more. "Save!", I said, "You cursed mother! Save my data from before!" One thing did the phosphors answer, only this and nothing more, Just, "Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

Was this some occult illusion? Some maniacal intrusion? These were choices undesired, ones I'd never faced before. Carefully, I weighed the choices as the disk made monstrous noises. The cursor flashed, insistent, waiting, baiting me to type some

more. Clearly I must press a key, choosing one and nothing more, from "Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

With my fingers pale and trembling, slowly toward the keyboard bending, longing for a happy ending, hoping all would be restored, praying for some guarantee, timidly I pressed a key. But on the screen there still persisted, words appearing as before. Ghastly grim they blinked and taunted, haunted, as my patience wore, saying, "Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

I tried to catch the chips off-guard - I pressed again, but twice as hard. I pleaded with the cursed machine: I begged and cried and then I swore. Then I tried in desperation, sev'ral random combinations, Still there came the incantation, just as senseless as before. Cursor blinking, mocking, winking, flashing nonsense as before. Reading, "Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

There I sat, distraught, exhausted; by my own

MILWAUKEE FOX HUNT* NEWS

By PAUL GREUTTNER, WB9ODQ

Subject: Milwaukee Fox Hunt NEWS for Friday,
August 10, 2007

Milwaukee Fox Hunt News

Next Regular Hunt:

Date: Friday, September 7, 2007

Time: 7:20 p.m.

Fox: WB9GZP/N9OOX

Starting Point: TBD

Frequency: ??

Format: ??



2007 Fox Hunt Schedule:

Friday, September 7, 2007 - - - - WB9GZP (Moved up
one week due to Wozawa Days & ARDF Championships)

Friday, October 12, 2007 - - - - - Fox ??

Friday, November 9, 2007 - - - - Fox ????

Friday, December 14, 2007 - - - Fox ????

***If you are interested in being the Fox for any of these
hunts, please let me know!***

Paul Gruettner at: PGruettner@hga.com

News of the last hunt:

Friday, August 10th, turned out to be a little hot and
humid, but a good night for a fox hunt.

The foxes, WA9BFH & N9DFE, started the hunters
out from Krueger Park, which is located just south of
Bluemound Road on about 127th street. There were two
transmitters, one on 146.43 and the other on 146.565. The
hunters did not initially hear the transmitter on 43, how-
ever, they picked up a weak signal on 565 to the south-
east. This park borders Interstate I94 and it did not take
the hunters long to realize the signal was coming from
the other side of I94. After following along the inter-
state for a little bit, the hunters came across a bike path
that passed under the interstate. However, because the
hunters were walking along the edge of the interstate,
they needed to climb over a barbed wire fence to get to
the underpass. Unfortunately, one of the hunters found
out just how sharp the barbed wire can be. As a result,
Dave will be checking his records to see when the last
time was he had a tetanus shot. That only slowed the
hunters down a little, and after about a 1/2 mile hike,
the signal became very strong and appeared to be

coming from a large bush. After about 30 minutes of
searching the same bush, WB9ODQ took first place
honors, finding the transmitter which was in a small
green container, at about eye level, camouflaged in the
leaves of the bush.

The hunt for the second transmitter led the hunters
south from the first transmitter along a bike path. It
only took 10 minutes to find the transmitter at the base
of another bush, along the bike path. All of the hunters
times are shown below.

The afterglow was held over at Shakey's Pizza where
we were joined by N9OOX and K9QEN for some good
food and conversation.

Fox: WA9BFH/N9DFE

Bush near Creek

Place	Hunter	Time
1	WB9ODQ	50 Minutes
2	WB9GZP	DNF

Fox: WA9BFH/N9DFE

Bush along bike path

Place	Hunter	Time
1	WB9ODQ	10 Minutes
2	WB9GZP	10.1

* A Fox Hunt is a Transmitter Hunt.

Poe cont. from pg. 3

machine accosted. Getting up, I turned away and
paced across the office floor. And then I saw dreadful
sight: a lightning bolt cut through the night. A gasp of
horror overtook me, shook me to my very core. The
lightning zapped my previous data, lost and gone
forevermore. Not even, "Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

To this day I do not know the place to which lost
data goes. What demonic nether world is wrought
where data will be stored, beyond the reach of mortal
souls, beyond the ether, in black holes? But sure as
there's "C", "Pascal", "Lotus", "Ashton-Tate", and
more, You will one day be left to wander, lost on
some Plutonian shore pleading,

"Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

EVENTS

MRAC Membership Meeting
Thu.-Aug. 30, 2007

Riverland Amateur
Radio Club SwapFest
Sat.-Sep. 8, 2007
Trempealeau County Fairgrounds
Galesville, WI.

<http://www.rarc.qth.com/>
Talk-In: 146.97- (PL 100)
& 146.52 simp.



Fri. & Sat. - Sep. 14-15, 2007
DXCC Convention
Northern Illinois
Holiday Inn
Elk Grove Village, IL
T/I on 147.360
www.peoriasuperfest.com

Ozaukee Radio Club
Outdoor Swapfest
Sat. - Sep 15, 2007
Fireman's Park
Cedarburg, WI

Peoria SuperFest 2007 *
Sat. & Sun., Sep. 15 & 16, 2007
Exposition Gardens
Peoria IL
T/I on 147.075+ (PL 103.5)
*** testing on Sun. only**

*** indicates VE testing
is available.**

VE NEWS BY Tom, KF9PU

We had a nice session on July 28. Sixteen people visited us, and all but one left with either a new license or an upgrade. (Had one renewal as well.)

VEs who assisted us included:

Naomi Potash KG9GSS
Larry Noldan NZ9I
Mark Bye KB9LXD
Bernie Golownia AA9CI
Wes Andersen N9YE
Nels Harvey WA9JOB
Bob Diehl WB9KMT

Our next session will be on Sept. 29.

VEC financial report for July.

Beginning balance: \$4,512.22
Income: \$65.00
Expenses: \$0
Ending balance: \$4,577.22

REMINDERS

Please check into our nets on Friday evenings.

Our **Ten Meter SSB** net is at
8:00 p.m. at 28.490 MHz \pm 5 KHz USB.

Our **Two Meter FM** net follows at
9:00 p.m. on our repeater at **145.390 MHz**, minus offset and a **PL of 127.3 Hz.**

Join us for **Saturday Morning Breakfast** at **Maxim's Restaurant, 18025 W. Capitol Dr.** We usually meet at around 8:00 a.m., and order around 8:15 a.m. The food and the company are good and you don't have to be a member of the club to join us.

CQ Third Tuesday
Come to CQ Third Tuesday at:
Old Country Buffet
16750 West Bluemound Rd.
Brookfield, WI

This gathering of HAMs meets on the third Tuesday of every month.

We start arriving there at 11:00 a.m. and leave when we're full and/or all talked out.

EXAM SCHEDULE BY TOM FUSZARD, KF9PU

**MRAC VEC
Exam Schedule
For remainder of 2007**

Sat., Sep. 29 9:30 a.m. @AES
Sat., Oct. 27 9:30 a.m. @AES
Sat., Nov. 24 9:30 a.m. @AES

For details, check out:

www.w9rh.org/testing.htm/

AES = Amateur Electronic Supply
5710 W. Good Hope Rd.
Milwaukee, WI

Here is a schedule of the VE Test Sessions in Janesville, Wisconsin for the remainder 2007:
October 20, 2007

The time and location is listed on the ARRL Listed Test Sessions or on my **N9FRY** call page under QRZ.COM.

The next meeting of MRAC
will be **Thursday, August 30, 2007**
at **7:00 p.m.**

Redemption Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall

4057 N. Mayfair Rd.

(Use the south entrance)

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

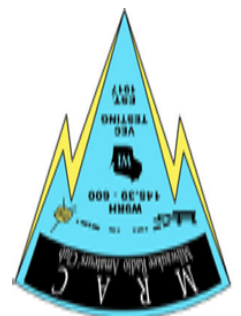
Please, DON'T call the church.

**Our Repeater,
Talk it up.
145.390- MHz
(127.3 Hz PL)**

**Our program
for the
August 30th
general
meeting is unavailable
at press time.**

Visit our website at: www.w9rh.org

Our phone **(414) 332-MRAC**
332-6 7 2 2



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First Class